CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 13, No. 31 TORONTO, AUGUST 18, 1948 $2.00 Per Annum

Skouras And Aides Welcomed

Strong List From Peerless Films

Exclusive Canadian distributor of the entire output of Masterpiece Productions Inc. is now Peerless Films Limited. Masterpiece, a reissue company, is headed by Jules Weill, well known in the film industries of Canada and the United States for more than

(Continued on Page 3)

Much Interest In Golf Tournament

The intention of being present at the fifth annual Canadian motion picture golf championship has been made known by many to Tom Daley, tournament manager, and his committee. The tournament is traditional for good fellowship, since most of

(Continued on Page 8)

New 20th-Fox Pic Schedule Announced From Canada

Great affection for Canada was expressed by Spyros P. Skouras, president of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, during the Canadian convention of that company at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, recently. With Skouras, a leading figure in the American business world and a leader in matters of public welfare, was his entire cabinet. The presence of Skouras, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., William E. Gehring and others of the company's top roster was a compliment to the Canadian division, which is headed by Arthur Silverstone.

(Continued on Page 3)

Ontario Exhibs Get Tax %

Ontario theatres are getting two and a half per cent of the amount of provincial amusement tax collected by each. The government has decided to reimburse the exhibitor for the trouble involved in collecting its 20 per cent tax on admission tickets. This is retroactive to May 19th.

The treasury department has also agreed to a more simple report form and has asked the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario for suggestions.

Exhibitors, however, are still opposed to the tax.

Hanson, Exhibs Welcome Broidy

"The industry has many problems, some of its own making. There's a critical period ahead," Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and Allied Artists told a trade gathering in Toronto recently. He was introduced by O. R. Hanson, Monogram's chief

(Continued on Page 8)

Montreal Switch

Orpheum, Montreal, which played French and French-dubbed films, has changed to English language first runs.

MYERS SUCCEEDS BAILEY AT FOX

Arthur S. Silverstone, general manager of 20th Century-Fox in Canada, has announced the appointment of Peter Myers as Toronto branch manager. He succeeds Harry J. Bailey, who has resigned.

Myers, 32, joined the Toronto branch of United Artists in 1935 and left for the RCAF in 1942, returning in 1946. In that year he joined Warner Brothers, leaving in 1947 to manage the Toronto branch of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada.

Opposition Grows To Film Censorship

The American Civil Liberties Union and the Motion Picture Association of America may test the legality of state and municipal film censorship in the courts if conferences being held lead to a mutual position. The Civil Liberties Union has long desired to challenge censorship as contrary to the First Amendment. A recent statement of the US Supreme Court said that motion pictures and radio are included as part of the press, freedom of which is guaranteed under the Constitution.

While Canadian distributors, both independents and branches

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Lower Tax Rates On Manitoba Admissions

A new and lower amusement tax schedule has been approved by the provincial government for Manitoba, replacing the straight 25 per cent tax which came into effect when Ottawa stepped out of this field. Acceptance came about through the efforts of a committee from the Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, which met with representatives of the government.

Rates range from 2 cents on tickets over 25 cents and not over 28 to 16 cents for admissions from 80 to 84 cents.

UNGER QUITS UNITED ARTISTS

Joseph J. Unger has resigned as general sales manager for United Artists, a post he has held since January, 1946. He will not be replaced. At the same time Paul Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity chief of the company, was named executive assistant to Gradwell L. Sears, distribution head.

The company will divide its sales activities into two divisions, with Edward M. Schnitzer as eastern general sales manager and Fred M. Jack as western general sales manager. Canada continues to be part of Schnitzer's responsibilities.

Lazarus will be responsible for overall policy and supervision of sales activities.

Robert Walker Cast

Robert Walker will have the lead role in MGM's "About Lyddy Thomas," which Leon Gordon will produce.

NFB's McLean At Unesco Talks

Canada's film commissioner, Ross McLean is in Europe attending Unesco conferences to discuss the technical needs in press, radio and film for countries devastated by the war. He was invited as Canadian authority on film requirement.

Clement E. Williams Joins Film Lab

Comptroller and general office manager of Film Laboratories of Canada Limited, Audio Pictures Limited and their subsidiary companies will be Clement E. Williams, who assumed his duties on Aug. 15th. He was with the Bank of Commerce for 23 years.

FOUR BIG WEEKS, TORONTO
'NIGHT BOAT TO DUBLIN' with ROBERT NEWTON
A PATHE (British) PICTURE from INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Limited

Now!
SHOCKING! BRUTAL! TRUE!
Monogram Pictures presents
Stage Struck
starring KANE RICHMOND
AUDREY LONG
CONRAD NAGEL
RALPH BYRD
with JOHN GALLAUDET
"I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES!"
Based on the sizzling novel by Cornell Woolrich
starring
DON CASTLE
ELYSE KNOX
with REGIS TOOMEY
CHARLES D. BROWN
Produced by Walter M. Mirisch
Directed by William Nigh
Screenplay by Steve Fisher
A MONOGRAM PICTURE
from
MONOGRAM
MONOGRAM PICTURES

Strong List From Peerless Films

(Continued from Page 1)

a quarter of a century.

A total of 39 important reissues are included in the deal and Jack Roher, head of Peerless, thinks that theatre operators in all categories who compare the BO appeal of good reissues with average originals will grab them. He also points out that the reduction in the number of films being made makes the reissues valuable.

The first group ready for immediate release includes:

"Crystal Ball," with Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland and William Bendix.

"Sundown," with Gene Tierney, George Sanders and Bruce Cabot.

"Foreign Correspondent," starring Laraine Day, Herbert Marshall and Joel McCrea.

"The Kansan," with Richard Dix and Jane Wyatt.

"Trade Winds," with Fredric March, Joan Bennett and Ann Sothern.

"I Married a Witch," with Veronica Lake, Susan Hayward and Fredric March.

Added to the above is a group of Hopalong Cassidy westerns.

"This is just the beginning" said Roher. "The Masterpiece schedule is a very imposing one and deals are currently under way for the acquisition of many more important properties which will make Peerless Films the biggest independent distributor of motion pictures in the Dominion."

Capac Wins Suit

Sam Karby of the Strand, Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, was ordered to pay damages and legal costs totalling $101.88 after Capac brought suit for copyright infringement. Karby had ignored a number of letters from Capac warning him to take out one of its licenses.

'Mr. Miracle' Star

Glenn Ford will star in Columbia's "Mr. Miracle."

Television In Lobby Boosts Odeon Take

First use of television in a Canadian theatre proved an outstanding draw last week at the Odeon Danforth Theatre in Toronto, boosting the take on the first-run showing of the J. Arthur Rank film, "The White Unicorn."

A television receiver was set up in the lobby of the theatre by a local radio firm and unusually good reception was obtained from a Buffalo video station. Full credits to the radio firm and the tele station were given on the marquee and lobby display.

Skouras And Aides Meet In Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

It was the first time the company had crossed an international boundary to make public its annual feature schedule and this atmosphere of goodwill between the USA and Canada was reflected in the decorations and sentiments. Skouras spoke against a background of crossed flags. Leading executives of Canadian circuits, headquartered in Toronto, joined with Independent exhibitor representatives in attending the company's luncheon and its final business session.

SPYROS P. SKOURAS

"We came to Canada purposely to announce our plans," Skouras said. "Although we are primarily a profit institution, at the same time we have a responsibility to the public of the world — and particularly to the English-speaking nations. Our company has a tradition of serving the public."

The film called "The Snake Pit," an unusual venture because it dealt with mental instability, was an example of its desire to serve the community's good, he said. He recalled that "Grapes of Wrath" and "How Green Was My Valley" touched on common problems of human welfare, while "Song of Bernadette" and "Keys to the Kingdom" gave the screen a new dignity.

He spoke of his "life-long friends" in the Canadian industry and hoped that next year he and his colleagues would remain longer so that he could visit them and meet others. Skouras' thanks to Canada for its help to the Greek War Relief, of which he was the USA chairman, were expressed so sincerely that he touched the hearts of all who listened. In the quietest of tones he recalled the pressing need of Greece and how Canada met it so well with supplies of all kinds, among them 360,000 bushels of wheat. "We will never forget you," Skouras said. "If there is ever anything we can do for your country, please ask us."

The Fox president discussed a variety of subjects. Television, he said, would double theatre attendance in a few years. Greater and more vigorous public relations was needed also.

During his remarks he congratulated Arthur Silverstone. "We are proud of the way you have taken hold of your position," he told him.

John J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and Herb Allen of Premier Operating also spoke during the meeting. Among the company speakers were Charles Schlaifer, head of advertising and publicity, who revealed that increased support would be given the 30 "A" pictures which Andrew J. Smith, vice-president in charge of distribution detailed as the next season's program.

Fox will make films in Italy, Germany, France, England, Canada and other countries. Canada's part in the global production plan will be "Canadian Pacific" and "RCMP."

Participating in the convention sessions were W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Charles Schlaifer; Martin Moscowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager; Clarence A. Hill, manager of branch operation; Frank Carroll; Roger Ferri and Jack Bloom.

The Canadian delegation consisted of Arthur Silverstone, division manager; V. M. Skorey, Calgary; Edward English, Montreal; R. G. March, Saint John; H. J. Bailey, Toronto; J. E. Patterson, Vancouver; and J. H. Huber, Winnipeg; also Sam Glasier, exploitation representative, and Toronto branch salesmen and bookers.

The complete list of the new season's product will be carried in a forthcoming issue.

PETER MYERS

He will succeed Harry Bailey as Toronto branch manager for Twentieth Century-Fox. Myers resigned as Toronto branch manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada to join Fox.

Another 20th House

Work has begun on the site of the theatre to be erected by 20th Century Theatres on Bloor, east of Yonge, Toronto. Of a unique design, it will seat 700 in orchestra and balcony.

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The Tales They Tell

AN OLD-TIMER was recalling the dim-and-distant past and he maintained that the high-jinks of the modern college student lacked robustness and imagination compared with those of then. He pointed to the cow-in-the-steeple and the wagon-on-the-roof stuff they used to pull long ago as examples of daring and deviousness not to be found today, then recalled one somewhat grisly stunt. It was not to be admired but it's hard to push out of your mind once you hear it.

In those long-ago days Toronto's main hospital was in the eastern part of the city and there medical students went to dissect cadavers. Nearby was one of those butcher and grocery stores that had a small roof over the pavement. You may remember that those butcher shops of yesterday had a series of hooks hanging at the edge of such roofs and on these hooks were hung carcasses of freshly-killed cows, pigs, etc.

The students had taken quite a dislike to the butcher, who had probably complained about their pranks, and they got even in their own grisly way. They robbed the hospital to do it.

The butcher learned about their vengeance when he noticed that a crowd had gathered outside. There, among the carcasses of cows, sheep and pigs, hung a naked cadaver!

A CERTAIN ART DEALER has worked out a very good impetus to trade, an appeal to vanity which brings him the highest prices for paintings from persons who usually don't buy them.

This art dealer has developed connections among those in charge of the art that goes on the walls of public galleries, city halls, legislative buildings, schools, institutions and such places. He has also made it his business to learn about the backgrounds and interests of potential customers.

The art dealer suggests to the official in charge of—let's say—an orphanage that a certain prominent contributor to its funds, whom he doesn't name, has expressed a desire to purchase a painting if it could be hung on one of the institution's walls. The orphanage official, rather than risk offending a supporter of the institution, agrees to hang the picture if the donor is as important as the art dealer says he is.

The art dealer then approaches the potential buyer, explaining that he is sure that the painting will be accepted by the orphanage and hung where passing visitors could see it. On the frame, of course, would go a brass plate with the donor's name. The art dealer, in a gesture of sincerity, offers to make the sale contingent on acceptance of the painting by the institution.

That, added to appeal of high-class personal publicity, sells 'em almost every time.

A STRANGE FEUD between two gamblers is old and still unsettled. They had been playing for high stakes, with thousands of dollars having changed hands, and the game had attracted many spectators among the poker fans at the club.

At the end of the long evening the one named George had won most of the money and his opponent, Bill, quit while he still had $1,000 in his pocket. Bill left with the money, which was his bankroll for tomorrow's game.

As Bill reached the street a masked man stepped out of the gloom. "Okay, George, take it easy," he said. "This is a stickup." Since Bill would no more oppose a gun than a royal flush, he gave up the $1,000. Then he went back in to George and demanded $1,000. It was George he pointed out, that the holdup man was waiting for, since he called him by that name. Bill contended that, since it was a case of mistaken identity and George was the intended victim, he was entitled to be recompensed.

But George didn't see it that way. So the bad blood is still there.

J. ARTHUR RANK

Presents

SNOWBOUND

Adapted from "The Lonely Skier"

Produced by:

AUDREY BARING

Director David MacDonald

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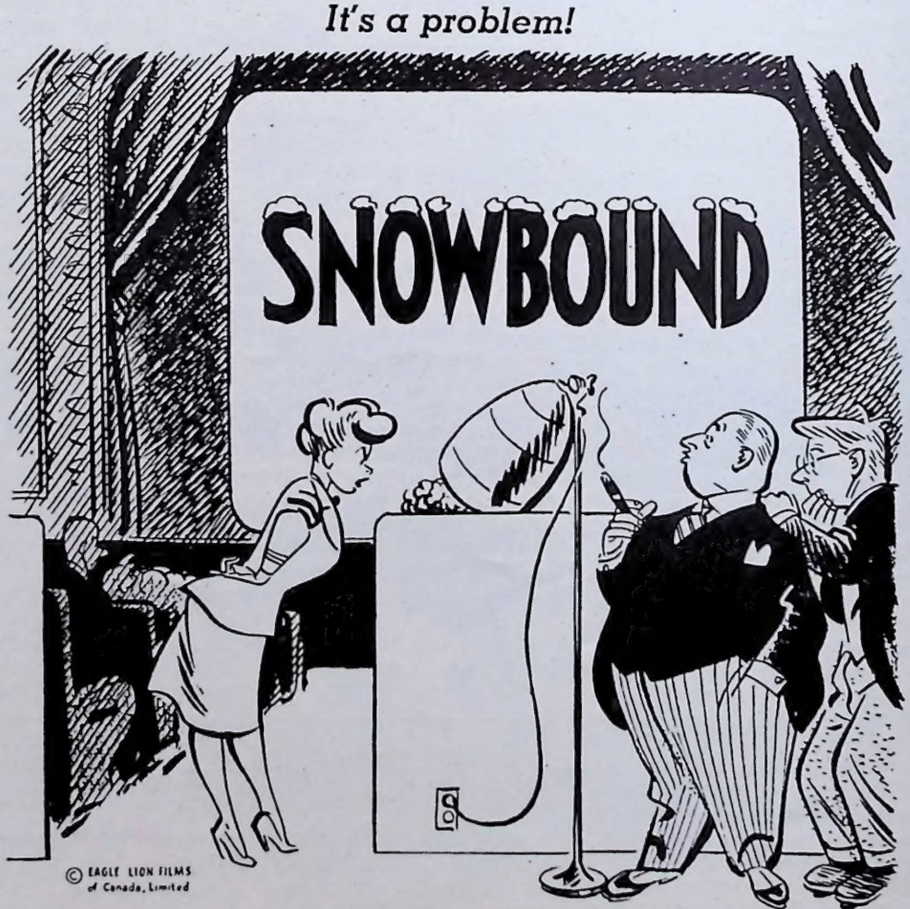
Contact your local
EAGLE-LION Branch
for fast play dates

An EAGLE-LION Release

It's a problem!



"But they told me at the beauty parlor 'Snowbound' would curl my hair!"

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

CANADIAN Film Weekly
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REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 31 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Dream Girl

with Betty Hutton, Macdonald Carey, Patric Knowles

Paramount 85 Mins.

ADAPTATION FROM THE RICE PLAY NOT TOO FUNNY, THIS ONE WILL REQUIRE INTENSIVE SELLING AND PUSH; HUTTON NAME SHOULD LURE HEAVY FIRST-RUN TRADE.

The Elmer Rice stage play is not too funny on film. There is an assortment of gags, true enough, and some of them are rather smart cracks at that, but for the most part the proceedings enacted herein by Betty Hutton, Macdonald Carey and the rest of the cast evolve as the tritest of trite stuff.

The romantic problem of a young girl given to daydreaming and flights of imagination will no doubt immediately be compared to something else of recent date wherein a male did much the same thing plus sound effects.

Once during "Dream Girl" Miss Hutton is her familiar self. She does a "Sadie Thompson" takeoff which permits her to sing a number suitable to her vocal talents. Later, near the end she does an aria from "Madame Butterfly."

Having to do with dreams in which Macdonald Carey always shows up in one form and costume and another, "Dream Girl" has her emotional problem solved by marrying Carey after he impresses her with his mental strength, toughness. These factors scare the girl properly and she comes out of her Freudian hallucinations.

Cast as the welloff, bookshop-keeping daughter of Walter Abel and Peggy Wood, Miss Hutton repeats her lines like a strap-hanger on the Brighton Express. To put it lightly this is incongruous, as Virginia Field plays her sister, who marries Patric Knowles. Knowles, about to divorce Miss Field, or rather the other way 'round, tries to lure Miss Hutton to go off to Reno with him. But other, more romantic characters have tried this and failed. Only Carey succeeds. He takes Miss Hutton up to Greenwich, Conn., and marries her, after which they call her parents in the middle of the night and after giving information after the fact, conclude the episode.

CAST: Betty Hutton, Macdonald Carey, Virginia Field, Patric Knowles, Walter Abel, Peggy Wood, Carolyn Butler, Lowell Gilmore.

CREDITS: Producer, P. J. Wolfson; Director, Mitchell Leisen; From the play by Elmer Rice; Photography, Daniel L. Fapp.

DIRECTION: Adequate. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good,

Easter Parade

with Judy Garland, Fred Astaire, Peter Lawford, Ann Miller

MGM 103 Mins.

HERE IS ONE THAT MOVIE FANS, YOUNG AND OLD, WILL THOROUGHLY ENJOY. AN APPEALING STORY, ENJOYABLE MUSIC, MAGNIFICENT DANCING, TOGETHER WITH TECHNICOLOR APPEAL WILL GET 'EM IN AND SEND 'EM AWAY HAPPY.

The boxoffice will jingle-jangle with the shekels from the patronage that seeks this kind of amusement.

Irving Berlin's songs, some old, some new, are soothing to the ear and one cannot come out of the theatre after seeing "Easter Parade" without humming more than one tune. The unsophisticated charm of Judy Garland is like a gem. And there is nothing like Fred Astaire's dancing. He is syncopation itself. The cast, in its entirety, is fine. One outstanding number that the patrons will talk about is that called "A Couple of Swells"—featuring a pair of silk-hatted evening-dudded tramps.

Production numbers are superb. Judy Garland warbles easily through "Better Luck Next Times," "Easter Parade," "I Love a Piano," "A Fella' With an Umbrella," "I Wanna' Go Back to Michigan," "When I Dance With You." Fred Astaire does "Drum Crazy," "When the Midnight Choo Choo Leaves for Alabam'," "Stepping Out With My Baby." Ann Miller has "Shaking the Blues Away," "The Girl on a Magazine Cover." Other numbers interpolated are, "I Love a Piano," "Snooky Ookums," "Ragtime Violin," and of course, "Easter Parade."

Arthur Freed rates laurels for the production. Charles Walters turned in a thorough-going job of direction, plus. Harry Stradling was on the beam with his camera work. Johnny Green caught the charm of the Berlin music.

Plot takes place about 1912, the hey-day of vaudeville, when musical comedy producers were vieing with each other. Fred Astaire and Ann Miller, a dance team, are on the verge of a big time engagement. Astaire is very much in love with his dancing partner. Distraction hits him when he learns that Miss Miller has been offered a show of her own and what with the thought of the glamour of being a star and all that goes with it, she doesn't hesitate in letting Astaire hold the bag.

Downhearted, broken, Astaire confides in his best friend, Peter Lawford, that with his tutelage he can make an offhand choice of any chorus girl and make her greater than his former partner. And to prove his point he goes to a cafe and chooses Judy Garland for his masterpiece.

In his endeavor to model Miss Garland into his own creation, Astaire fairly ruins her unsophisticated, meek charm. In his severity to make good his pledge he is unmerciful in his tutorship, also fails to notice Miss Garland's affection which is growing with each moment.

At a meeting arranged by Lawford who is smitten by the love bug in Judy's direction, Astaire and Miss Miller meet again. Miss Miller tells him he is only making Miss Garland another copy of herself. Astaire still loves Miss Miller but finally learns that nothing can come of it.

Realization comes that he has failed to let Judy be her real, natural self. He discovers the real charm of his new partner. And so success goes to the team as they play the different spots. In the interim Miss Miller is a success.

Astaire and Miss Garland become stars in a revue. They visit Miss Miller and it is then that Judy realizes he is still carrying the torch for his former partner. However, the whole thing clears up when he realizes he's in love with Judy and in happiness they join the Easter Parade.

CAST: Judy Garland, Fred Astaire, Peter Lawford, Ann Miller, Jules Mushin, Clinton Sundberg, Jeni LeGon.

CREDITS: Producer, Arthur Freed; Director, Charles Walters; Original story, Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett; Screenplay, Sidney Sheldon, Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett; Lyrics-Music, Irving Berlin; Cameraman, Harry Stradling; Musical numbers directed by Robert Alton; Musical director, Johnny Green; Orchestrations, Conrad Salinger, Gan Cleve, Leo Arnaud; Vocal arrangements, Robert Tucker; Art, Cedric Gibbons, Jack Martin Smith; Editor, Albert Akst; Sound, Douglas Shearer; Sets, Edwin B. Willis, Arthur Krams.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Oak Bay to Willis

P. W. Willis has acquired the theatre in Oak Bay, BC, from Odeon Theatres of Canada.

'Mask For Lucretia'

Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland will star in Paramount's "A Mask for Lucretia."

The White Unicorn

with Margaret Lockwood, Ian Hunter, Joan Greenwood

Eagle-Lion 90 Mins.

SOAP OPERA FARE, SHOULD DO THE TRICK WITH THE FEMININE PORTION OF THE AUDIENCE OUT TO GET THEIR TEARJERKINGEST MONEY'S WORTH.

Shortly after it is established that Joan Greenwood is an erring mother of an illegitimate child and Margaret Lockwood is the mistress of a home for delinquent girls, the pair begin telling each other of their travail and divergent experiences with men. Miss Greenwood is from the slums. Miss Lockwood is the well-bred woman whose marriage to a stuffed shirt went on the rocks. In the former's case, she thought she would improve her condition by permitting herself to be seduced by a man who had no thought of marriage. After her child is born she tries to kill herself and her child. This does not come off. She is arrested, remanded to Miss Lockwood's home until trial.

All the elements of the familiar opera du savon are present in this tear jerker which will quite easily furnish the feminine portion of the audience with what they require in the way of maudlinity. It is a lengthy series of flashbacks in which the Greenwood-Lockwood talents indulge in what just about shapes up to be a can you top this session of soul-baring.

Married, estranged and divorced from Ian Hunter, Miss Lockwood remarries. Second mate is Dennis Price who dies in a Finnish skiing accident, leaving a distraught widow. Miss Lockwood forthwith takes up the post at the home and it is later through her efforts that when the erring Miss Greenwood comes to trial before Ian Hunter, the judge in the matter, the girl is freed and both Miss Lockwood and Hunter decide to patch up their past lives for the sake of their young daughter, "Norey," played by Miss Lockwood's real life child, "Toots."

CAST: Margaret Lockwood, Joan Greenwood, Ian Hunter, Dennis Price, Eileen Peel, Guy Middleton, Catherine Lacey, Paul Dupuis.

CREDITS: A J. Arthur Rank Presentation; A John Cornfield Production; Producer, Harold Huth; Director, Bernard Knowles; Screenplay, Robert Westerby, A. R. Rawlinson, Moie Charles; From the novel, "The White Unicorn," by Flora Sandstrom;; Photography, Richard H. Wyer.

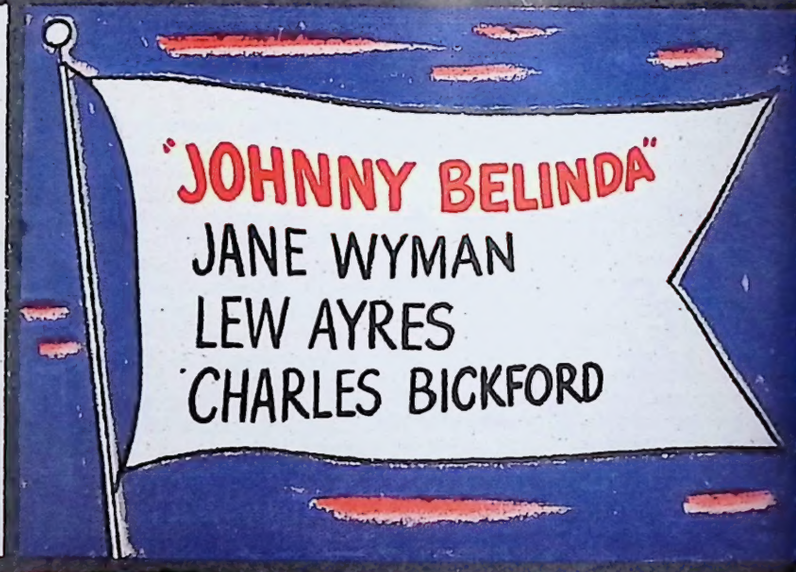
DIRECTION, Adequate. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

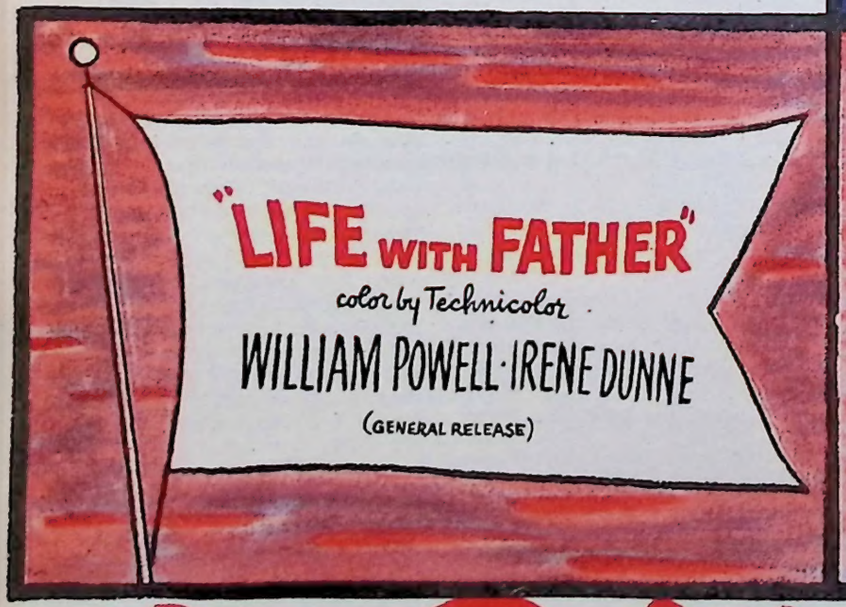
EVERY WA

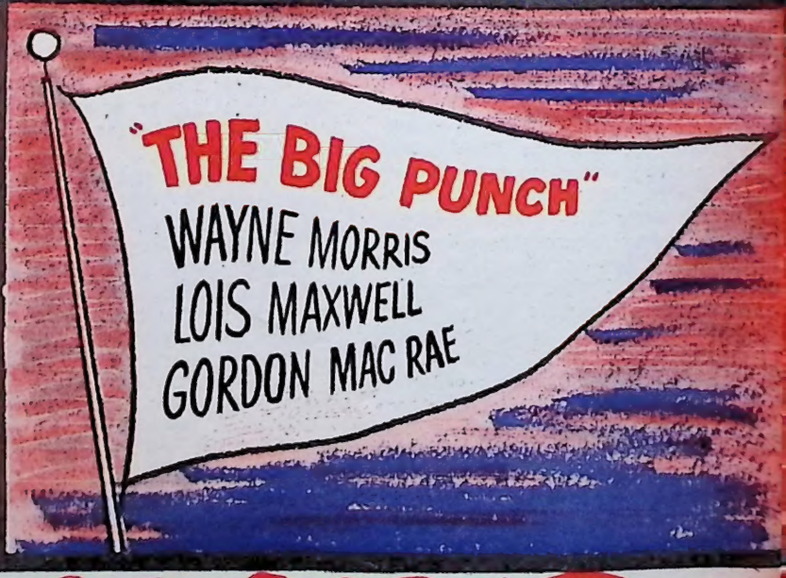
PLUS

WARNER PATHE

CANADIAN NEWS







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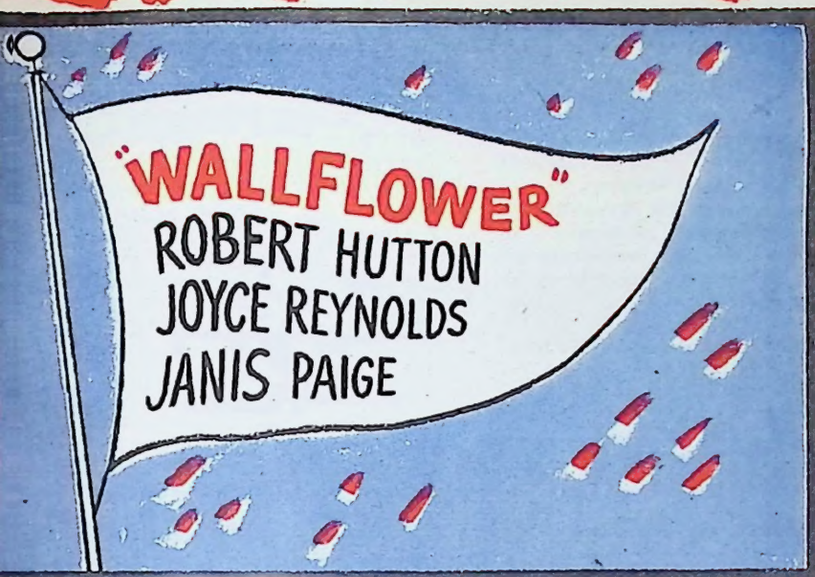
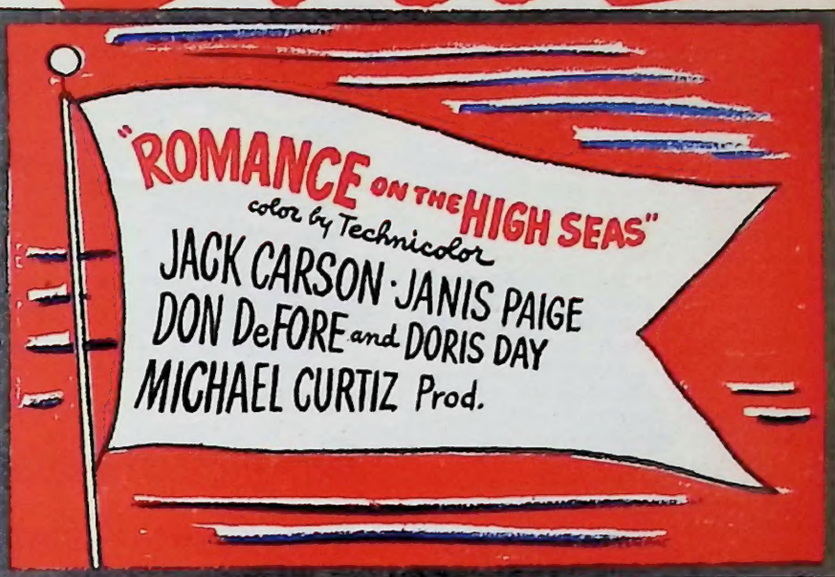
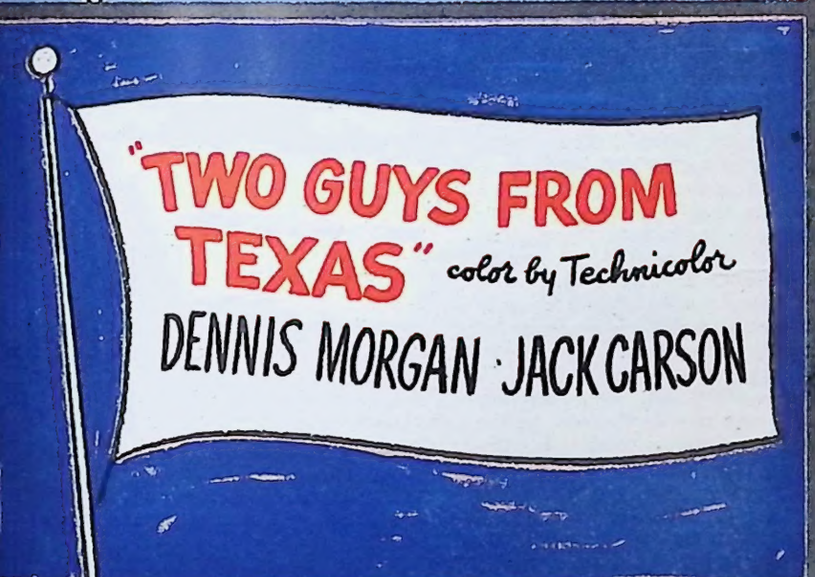


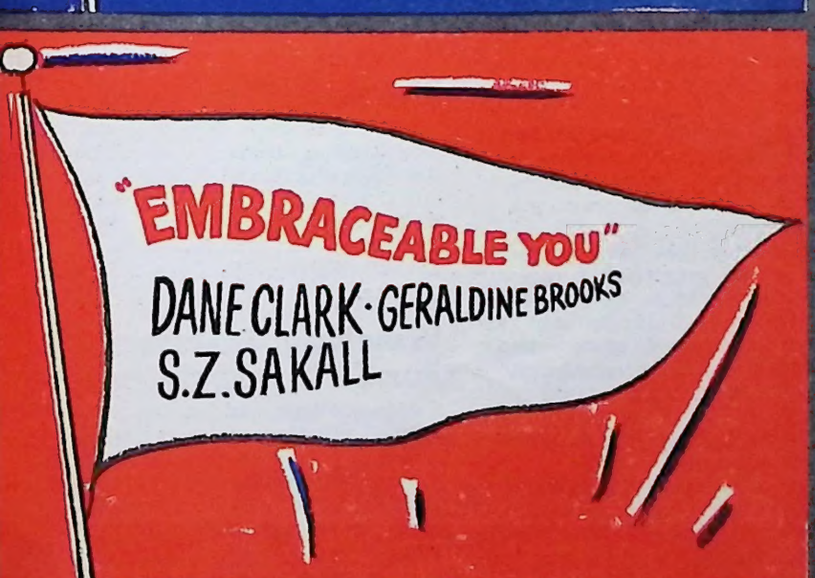


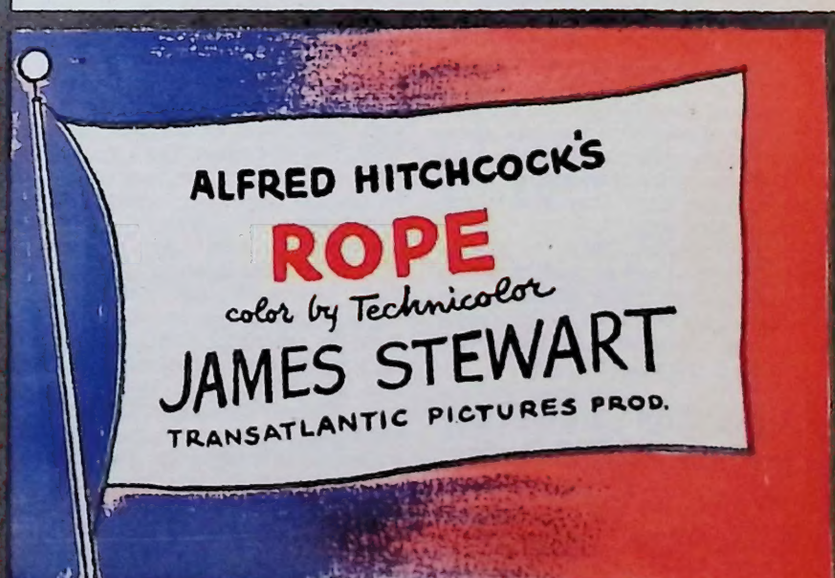


WARNER BROS.

VITAPHONE

SHORT SUBJECTS





DATE IN '48!

Hanson, Exhibs Welcome Broidy

(Continued from Page 1)

officer in Canada.

The making of films was an uncertain business, Broidy said. "You get to a certain point and from there it becomes a guess. You wait to see how it comes out and lots of times you feel like leaving town. But if perseverance, ambition, intelligence and integrity go to make good pictures we'll have them. We're on the road and we'll get there with your help."

What his company needed to support its efforts were playing time and income, Broidy said, "and you exhibitors can provide them."

The Monogram chief discussed his recent association with Canadian International Screen Productions, the new Canadian production company in Montreal. "Under no circumstances would we have affiliated ourselves with this company unless we believed that its films will have the quaities needed to be commercially acceptable," he said. "We have approval of story, budget, casting and so on—and that's all we have with our own company."

He was extremely happy, he said, about the great business that "The Babe Ruth Story" was doing in its first runs. It would be the company's greatest grosser to date, a freak attraction that was surprising the industry. In it William Bendix gives a notable performance.

Joseph Than and Leonard Fields, executive producers of Canadian International Screen Productions, were introduced by Hanson. The latter, in speaking, stressed that the company wasn't out to win Oscars but to make bread-and-butter pictures that would have boxoffice appeal. He and his colleagues had made a study of the mistakes of the past in Canadian production and these had to do with budgets, releasing facilities and organization. They were sure that they had eliminated this type of error.

Mrs. Marina Than, in charge of CISP's talent project, was also present. While in Toronto she was interviewed by Roly Young on the radio and talked with acting aspirants.

Para Canadian Film To Play 15,000 Dates

An estimated 15,000 theatres in the USA will play Paramount's "Neighbor to the North" as part of the entire industry's Canadian Co-operation Project. The short is included in Paramount's Pacemaker series and was made in Canada, building up the tourist industry, third largest in the Dominion.

NEWMAN IS LIAISON OFFICER

A. H. Newman of the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, has been named central liaison officer for all American film activities resulting from the accord recently entered into by the Canadian government and the American film industry.

Newman's office will serve in the future as a clearing house for all film matters to which the American companies may be parties.

It is expected that as a result of the Newman appointment there will be a stepping up of the production of short subjects and newsreel footage with Canadian locale and subjects.

Early this year the Canadian Co-operation Project was inaugurated by the Motion Picture Association of America to induce expenditures in Canada by producers and tourists as an aid to our USA dollar shortage. It is hoped that this will make restrictions on export of profits or revenue to the USA unnecessary.

Shooting on some pictures by Hollywood producers is planned, while others are being made with Canadian capital for world distribution.

Opposition Grows To Film Censorship

(Continued from Page 1)

of American concerns, have never opposed censorship vigorously, it was challenged in 1944 in the courts of Quebec by a theatre concern, the Superior Operating Company of Ben Garson and Jules Laine. An appeal to the Privy Council was anticipated but this was dropped when Odeon Theatres acquired the company.

It was the contention of the plaintiffs that provincial censorship is illegal because it confers upon censors the power to condemn a film as immoral and confiscate it, whereas the federal Criminal Code sees no offence until after exhibition and then only if the film exhibited violates the common rules of decency, and thus the law.

Canada has eight separate censorship boards and more machinery of that type than any other English-speaking country. While the cost of censoring films in each of those boards adds up to a considerable total, no official objections have been made publicly. But Canadian film men are beginning to feel that censorship is unduly impairing revenue in many cases.

Some say that the original intention of the censorship board, that of facilitating exhibition through avoidance of police action by checking films before they go into the theatre, means less now than ever before. It was this which caused the distributors to accept censorship without challenging its legality. It is felt that this should always be remembered when films are being examined.

Since acceptance of censorship is to some degree voluntary, the rights of distributors should be given greater consideration, even to the point, some say, of having representation on boards. Censors have also been influenced by representatives of oranizations without legal status, and these have occasionally been invited to see the film along with department officials. They were, in effect, an unofficial jury.

From a cost standpoint, there are film men who say that censorship is too expensive and that boards accumulate too much revenue. Censorship is a service and such boards should operate at cost and not be a means of making money for expenditure in other ways.

The questioning of censorship is nothing new in Canada. In the Toronto Sunday World of December 25th, 1921, the late Fred Jacobs, Canada's leading critic at the time, wrote:

"So far as our movies go, Canadians are the most censored people in the world. Each Province in Canada has its own Board of Censors, and by the time eight of them get through cutting the things that they do not like out of a picture, it would make just as much sense if it were put into the machine backward, and run off from end to beginning."

A picture that had been passed by eight provincial censorship boards "ought to be as pure as driven snow," Jacobs said. He then commented on a current effort to unify censorship. "If a picture is certified in Ontario it ought to be fit to be shown in Alberta or Nova Scotia without corrupting the morals of the citizens of either Province." The multiplication of censorship material in Canada does seem wasteful, he wrote, "and one cannot see what good purpose it serves."

During the Quebec case Canadian newspapers were quick to see its importance and printed editorials based on it.

Much Interest In Golf Tournament

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the several hundred who attend do not golf but spend the day in the sun and the evening dining, fraternizing and having fun. The date is September 1st.

This year the event, which is sponsored by the Canadian Film Weekly, will again be held at the ample Rouge Hills Golf & Country Club, at Toronto's eastern outskirts. The location is a popular one with film industry folks, for Famous Players held many of its pre-war picnics there.

The several fine challenge trophies are once again up for competition and the usual large number of prizes for the golf winners and the non-golfers' lucky draw are being gathered. Industry lads from a number of parts of Ontario will be on hand to try for them. Tickets are the same as in the past—$4 for golfers and $3 for non-golfers.

Curly Posen is in charge of the ticket committee, which is comprised of Ben Freedman, Art Milligan, Harold Kay, Izzy Allen, Paul Maynard and Hye Bossin. These may be obtained from any named or from the Canadian Film Weekly office, 25 Dundas Square.

Archie Laurie heads the prize committee and serving with him are Ralph Dale, Sam Glasier, Jack Fitzgibbons, Larry Stephens and Arch Jolley.

The games and house committee consists of Jack Arthur, chairman, and Al Troyer, Ralph Dale, Peter Myers and Menzo Craig.

Arch Jolley is secretary of the committee and Tom Daley treasurer as well as its chief.

Bishop Set For Lead

William Bishop, who has just completed a leading role with Randolph Scott and Ella Raines in Columbia's "The Walking Hills," has been given the male lead of "Law of the Barbary Coast." Wallace MacDonald will produce.

Winnipeg Salesman For SRO Appointed

Maurice Diamond has been appointed Winnipeg sales representative for the Canadian Selznick Releasing Organization Inc., according to a recent announcement by Joseph Marks, general manager.

Cecil Black will supervise all sales activities of SRO releases in the Vancouver, Calgary and Winnipeg territories and will headquarter in the first-named location.

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'Man-Eater' Cash From Empire-U

Canadian exhibitors and managers will have a chance of winning some money as well as boosting business with Universal-International's "Man-Eater of Kumaon," which is being distributed in Canada by Empire-Universal Films Ltd.

Empire-Universal, President A. W. Perry announces, will offer prizes totalling $250 for campaigns on the film, which is one of the most exploitable in recent years.

The campaign that wins first prize will earn $150, second prize will be $65 and third prize $35. Entries will be judged by publicity chiefs and trade paper editors.

"Man-Eater of Kumaon," based on the Book of the Month best-seller, has been produced in the best boxoffice tradition of the jungle picture and its exploitable angles. It stars Sabu, among others, and they are supported by Morris Carnovsky and other leading players.

Jim Delaney Heads Brockville Venture

For 17 years associated with the Delaney Theatre, Gananoque, Ontario, J. E. Delaney has resigned as manager to become president and general manager of the Brock Amusement Company Limited, Brockville, Ontario. That company will establish a bowling alley.

The theatre staff and members of his family honored Jim with a purse and an illuminated address. Naturally, the lads of the trade wish him well.

Cast Named For New MGM Production

James Gleason joins Frank Sinatra, Esther Williams and Gene Kelly in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," based on an original story by Kelly and Stanley Donen. Busby Berkeley directs for MGM and Arthur Freed will produce.

Columbia Sets Cast For 'Triple Threat'

Columbia recently named Gloria Henry and Richard Crane for the lead roles in "Triple Threat," film about professional football which Sam Katzman is producing and Jean Yarbrough directing. At the same time the studio signed three top sports announcers, Harry Wismer of American Broadcasting Company, Tommy Harmon of KFI and Bob Kelly, official announcer for the Los Angeles Rams, for radio announcer roles.

The Original Fuller Brush Man

A native of Nova Scotia, Alfred C. Fuller of the Fuller Brush Company spends his summers in Yarmouth, where Mrs. Fuller was born. When Columbia's Red Skelton-Janet Blair smash hit, "Fuller Brush Man," was dated into the Mayfair the manager, Syd Wyman, wired Fuller, who flew in for the opening. It was quite a local event and attracted much publicity.

Fuller is shown here, then Wyman and Peter Herschorn, secretary of Franklin & Herschorn Theatrical Enterprises.

E. J. Byrne Passes After Brief Illness

Following a brief illness E. J. Byrne, secretary and assistant treasurer, Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, died recently in the Neurological Institute, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, in his 48th year.

Mr. Byrne was born in Manlius, NY, in 1901 and came to Canada in 1904. He joined the the Northern Electric Company in 1920 and served in the accounting and auditing departments in Montreal and Winnipeg, for several years. He was transferred to Dominion Sound as accountant and office manager in Montreal when the latter company was formed in 1935.

During 1918-19 he served with the CEF, Siberian forces, and was in the Victoria Rifles of Canada, Reserve Army, from 1940 to 1946. He was a member of the Canadian Legion, the Canadian Credit Institute and the National Office Management Association.

Mr. Byrne is survived by his wife, formerly Hazel McKinnon; two children, Norma and Donald; a brother, William; and two sisters, Mrs. F. Clarkall of Montreal and Mrs. Leigh Hill of Ottawa.

A funeral service was held in the Loyola Chapel and burial was in Cote des Neiges cemetery.

'Police Women'

Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films has bought "Police Women," written by Robert Musel and Michael Raymond, and will put it into production shortly.

Emp-U May Amend Writ Vs. Rank

Empire-Universal Films Ltd. was given leave to amend its statement of claim against J. Arthur Rank et al ". . . Upon plaintiffs paying all the costs of defendant Rank arising out of order of this court dated March 12, 1947." If this is not done "an order will go dismissing application." The judgment was delivered in Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

The original statement of claim asks $1,000,000 damages from United World Pictures Co. Inc.; J. Arthur Rank; General Cinema Finance Corp. Ltd.; and Universal Pictures Co. Inc. for breach of contract, and $1,000,000 damages against all the defendants for inducing breach of contract and for conspiracy and otherwise.

'Forgotten Women'

"Forgotten Women," a story based on the current campaign to keep women out of bars, has been set as Jeffrey Bernerd's next production at Monogram. First cast assignment places Kane Richmond in the male lead.

Watts To Direct

W. E. Watts will direct RKO's "Follow Me Quietly."

Rathvon To Quit

N. Peter Rathvon has submitted his resignation as president of RKO but will continue until his successor is named. It is thought that Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president, may be promoted.

Griffith, Pioneer, Dies In Hollyw'd

David Wark Griffith, who gave movie fans the close-up, pictures of more than one reel and the renowned "Birth of a Nation," died at 73 recently in Hollywood.

Griffith had been inactive for many years in the industry he helped develop. In his heydey he brought to prominence such players as Toronto-born Mary Pickford, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Blanche Sweet, Mae Marsh, Owen Moore, Alice Joyce, Jack and Lottie Pickford, Richard Barthelmess and Constance Talmadge.

His movies included "Hearts of the World," "Broken Blossoms," "Way Down East," "Orphans of the Storm" and "America." His last was "The Struggle" in 1931.

The tall, massively-built director made 432 pictures. They brought in nearly $60,000,000 at the world's boxoffices. This represented a profit of about $25,000,000 to Griffith and his associates.

His epochal "Birth of a Nation," filmed in 1915, still is shown occasionally and stands as the third greatest movie grosser in history.

Griffith was born in La Grange, Ky. He was a reporter for the Louisville Courier-Journal at 17, but turned to stage-acting a year later.

In 1904 he went to work as a movie actor at $5 a day for the Biograph Studio.

Col. William Selig Dies in Hollywood

Colonel William Selig, industry pioneer, passed away recently in Hollywood at the age of 84.

He produced the first great California feature "The Count of Monte Cristo," in 1907 and in 1910 he made "Ranch Life in the Great Southwest," which started Tom Mix on his career. One of his most famous productions is "The Spoilers" made in 1914.

George Raft Cast

George Raft will star in Columbia's "The Big Jump."

Phyllis Calvert Set For Role In 'Samson'

Phyllis Calvert, English screen and stage star, has been selected for a top role in Cecil B. DeMille's biblical drama, "Samson and Delilah," which will be produced in Technicolor.

In "Samson and Delilah" she will play Semadar, "the other woman" in the triangle including Hedy Lamarr as Delilah and Victor Mature as Samson. Semadar is Delilah's older sister who wins Samson's favor.

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